

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering having more than one layer, wherein the layers have been bonded by an adhesive which comprises, as binder, an aqueous dispersion of a mixture made from a polymer A), at least 60% by weight of which is composed of ethylene and from a polymer B), at least 60% by weight of which is composed of vinylaromatics, dienes or mixtures of these, wherein the textile floorcovering is a tufted carpet, and wherein one layer is a tufted backing fabric, and one layer is a secondary backing bonded to said tufted backing fabric by said adhesive.

Claim 2 (Original): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is from 0.1 to 50% by weight and that of B) is from 50 to 99.9% by weight, based on the total of A) and B).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein the structural components present in the polymer A) are from 60 to 99.9% by weight of ethylene and from 0.1 to 40% by weight of an ethylenically unsaturated acid, based on polymer A).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1 wherein the structural components present in the polymer B) are from 60 to 99.9% by weight of vinylaromatics, dienes or mixtures of these and from 0.1 to 20% by weight of an ethylenically unsaturated acid, based on polymer B).

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adhesive also comprises a thickener.

Claim 6 (Original): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 5, wherein the thickener is a copolymer of ethylenically unsaturated compounds at least 50% by weight of which are ethylenically unsaturated acids, ethylenically unsaturated amides or mixtures of these.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adhesive comprises less than 200 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the total of A) and B), of a filler.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein no filler is present in the adhesive.

Claims 9-10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A process for producing a textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, which comprises applying from 20 g to 1000 g (dry) per m² of adhesive to one of the layers and adhesively bonding the layers to one another.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A process for producing a textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 11, wherein the adhesive is applied to the reverse side of the tufted backing fabric and the tufted backing fabric is adhesively bonded to the secondary backing.

Claim 13 (Original): An aqueous adhesive comprising, as binder, an aqueous dispersion of a mixture made from a polymer A), at least 60% by weight of which is composed of ethylene and from a polymer B), at least 60% by weight of which is composed of vinylaromatics, dienes or mixtures of these, and comprising a thickener, where the thickener is a copolymer of ethylenically unsaturated compounds at least 50% by weight of which are ethylenically unsaturated acids, ethylenically unsaturated amides or mixtures of these.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein the tufted backing fabric comprises mainly a polypropylene or a polyester.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 14, wherein the tufted backing fabric comprises threads fixed thereto on a side thereof that bonds to the secondary backing, wherein the threads are fixed to the tufted backing fabric with a binder comprising a styrene-butadiene copolymer.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein the secondary backing is a web made from woven or non-woven fibers, or is a needle felt, said secondary backing comprising a polyester or a polypropylene.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 14, wherein the secondary backing is a web made from woven or non-woven fibers, or is a needle felt, said secondary backing comprising a polyester or a polypropylene.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 2, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is from 0.5 to 20% by weight and that of B) is from 80 to 99.5% by weight, based on the total of A) and B).

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 18, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is from 1 to 10% by weight and that of B) is from 90 to 99% by weight, based on the total of A) and B).

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 19, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is less than 10% by weight, based on the total of the A) and B).

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): A textile floorcovering having more than one layer, wherein the layers have been bonded by an adhesive which comprises, as binder, an aqueous dispersion of a mixture made from a polymer A), at least 60% by weight of which is composed of ethylene and from a polymer B), at least 60% by weight of which is composed of vinylaromatics, dienes or mixtures of these, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is less than 10% by weight, based on the total of A) and B).

Claim 22 (New): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 3, wherein polymer A comprises from 70 to 99.5 % by weight of ethylene and from 0.5 to 30 % by weight of an ethylenically unsaturated acid.

Claim 23 (New): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 22, wherein polymer A comprises from 70 to 95 % by weight of ethylene and from 5 to 30 % by weight of an ethylenically unsaturated acid.

Claim 24 (New): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 2, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is from 0.5 to 20% by weight and that of B) is from 80 to 99.5% by weight, based on the total of A) and B).

Claim 25 (New): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 24, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is from 1 to less than 10% by weight and that of B) is from more than 90, to 99% by weight, based on the total of A) and B).

Claim 26 (New): A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 25, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is from 1 to 5% by weight and that of B) is from 95 to 99% by weight, based on the total of A) and B).

Claim 27 (New): An aqueous adhesive as claimed in claim 13, wherein polymer A comprises from 70 to 99.5 % by weight of ethylene and from 0.5 to 30 % by weight of an ethylenically unsaturated acid.

Claim 28 (New): An aqueous adhesive as claimed in claim 27, wherein polymer A comprises from 70 to 95 % by weight of ethylene and from 5 to 30 % by weight of an ethylenically unsaturated acid.

Claim 29 (New): An aqueous adhesive as claimed in claim 13, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is from 1 to 5% by weight and that of B) is from 95 to 99% by weight, based on the total of A) and B).

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

New Claims 22-29 have been added. Claims 22, 23, 27 and 28 are supported in the specification at page 2, lines 16-24. Claims 24 and 25 are supported in the specification at page 6, lines 19-24. Claims 26 and 29 are supported in the specification at page 6, lines 19-24, combined with Adhesives 2 and 6 in Table 1 at page 9.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. Claims 1-8 and 11-29 are now pending in the application.